

WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION

G/SPS/N/MEX/204
10 December 2003

(03-6536)

Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

Original: Spanish

NOTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES

1.	Member to Agreement notifying: <u>MEXICO</u> If applicable, name of local government involved:
2.	Agency responsible: Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT)
3.	Products covered (provide tariff item number(s) as specified in national schedules deposited with the WTO; ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable). Wood packaging material in international trade
4.	Regions or countries likely to be affected, to the extent relevant or practicable: Any trading partner marketing products with wood packaging material destined for Mexico.
5.	Title and number of pages of the notified document: Emergency Mexican Official Standard NOM-EM-144-SEMARNAT-2003 Establishing the Technical Specifications for the Phytosanitary Measure (Treatment) and Use of the Mark Certifying the Application Thereof in Relation to Wood Packaging Material in International Trade (6 pages, in Spanish).
6.	Description of content: This Emergency Mexican Official Standard establishes the technical specifications for the recognized phytosanitary measure (treatment) and use of the mark attesting to the application thereof in relation to wood packaging material. This Standard is mandatory throughout Mexican territory. This Emergency Standard is in partial conformity with the International Standard for Phytosanitary Measures " <i>Guidelines for Regulating Wood Packaging Material in International Trade</i> ", adopted on 15 March 2002 by the Interim Commission on Phytosanitary Measures (ICPM) of the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).
7.	Objective and rationale: [] food safety, [] animal health, [X] plant protection, [] protect humans from animal/plant pest or disease, [X] protect territory from other damage from pests
8.	Nature of the urgent problem(s) and reasons for urgent action: The purpose of this Emergency Mexican Official Standard is to reduce the risk of the introduction into and/or spread within Mexico of quarantine pests associated with wood packaging material in use in international trade (made of coniferous and non-coniferous raw wood) and to subject such material to phytosanitary control by way of the application of a globally recognized mark. There is an urgent need to establish phytosanitary measures in order to eliminate the risk of the introduction of most quarantine pests and significantly reduce the risk of that of other pests that may be associated with such packaging material.

8.	Nature of the urgent problem(s) and reasons for urgent action (cont'd): The grounds for issuing this Emergency Standard are interceptions at a number of entry points for imported goods and merchandise of non-native quarantine pests in wood packaging material and the fact that the introduction, survival and spread of such pests could cause economic and ecological harm to national territory.
9.	International standard, guideline or recommendation: <input type="checkbox"/> Codex Alimentarius Commission, <input type="checkbox"/> Office International des Epizooties, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International Plant Protection Convention, <input type="checkbox"/> None If an international standard, guideline or recommendation exists, give the appropriate reference and briefly identify deviations:
10.	Relevant documents and language(s) in which these are available: <i>Diario Oficial de la Federación</i> (Official Journal) of 26 November 2003 (available in Spanish).
11.	Date of entry into force/period of application (as applicable): Day after publication in the Official Journal / six months from the date following publication.
12.	Agency or authority designated to handle comments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point, or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body:
13.	Texts available from: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National notification authority, <input type="checkbox"/> National enquiry point or address, fax number and E-mail address (if available) of other body: Web site: www.economia.gob.mx/?P=85 (Standards catalogue). Enquiry point: E-mail: cidgn@economia.gob.mx General Directorate of Standards: Tel.: (52+55) 5729-9300, Ext. 4156 Fax: (52+55) 5520-9715